

Seton Hall University eRepository @ Seton Hall

Diplomacy Syllabi

School of Diplomacy and International Relations

Spring 2014

Statecraft: Designing Foreign Policy

Brian K. Muzas PhD
Seton Hall University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarship.shu.edu/diplomacy-syllabi>

Recommended Citation

Muzas, Brian K. PhD, "Statecraft: Designing Foreign Policy" (2014). *Diplomacy Syllabi*. 155.
<https://scholarship.shu.edu/diplomacy-syllabi/155>

Statecraft: Designing Foreign Policy

DIPL 6181 NA

Thursday 5:00-7:10pm

School of Theology 121

Spring 2014

Instructor: Rev. Brian K. Muzás, Ph.D.
Office hours: Wednesday 10:30-11:30am
Office: 101-D McQuaid Hall
Office Tel.: +1 973-313-6022
E-mail: brian.muzas@shu.edu

Course Description and Content

This course is devoted to examining statecraft: the design of strategies to achieve foreign policy goals; the choice of policy instruments within these strategies; and an assessment of their relative utility in achieving national aims. The course is designed to introduce you to the subject matter and to help you design a foreign policy strategy for a designated country.

Throughout the semester you will *simultaneously* (1) read the assigned texts, (2) conduct research on foreign (and domestic) policy of an assigned state, and (3) gradually design a viable cost-effective strategy. In order to accomplish the task of designing a strategy we will devote the first part of each class to analyzing the assigned texts. The second part of the class will be devoted to applying what we learned in that class to your concrete case. Thus, you will not only have to *closely* read the assigned texts before each class but you will also have to know whether a specific goal is desirable/viable and whether a specific foreign policy tool is available and useful for achieving your country's specific goal(s). I will assess your progress weekly because each week at least 30% of students will discuss their work, accomplishments as well as challenges.

This course is designed to *combine the absorption and the application of knowledge*. It is not too heavy on required readings because I expect you to think creatively and to *conduct research on your assigned case study from week three (1/30)*.

Throughout the semester we will try to link the readings with contemporary events. Hence, you should keep informed about relevant current events through regular reading of newspapers. You should read a newspaper that provides thorough coverage of international news (for example, *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*). If possible you should also read foreign newspapers. You may also want to watch news on TV. BBC, CNN International, CCTV9 (from China) and Russia Today provide good insight into current events. You will get a better insight if you follow news from different countries.

Assignments and Grading Rules

1) Leading class discussion. Each student will start off a class discussion by presenting a 10 minute analysis of an assigned article or book chapter. (I will assign texts during the first class.) Present the main thesis and outline the author's argument. Is the argument logically coherent? Does the author provide empirical evidence in support of the main thesis? Is the causal logic plausible? Is it problematic? Offer your own well-reasoned ideas on the topic. Can you offer new insights?

2. One in-class exam. Use of books and notes will be prohibited.

3. Policy paper. Two students will form a working group. The group will write a 20 page foreign policy strategy of a designated country and present their research to the class. Each group is required to post an outline (max 2 pages) of their final presentation on Blackboard 5 days before the presentation. Policy papers are due on the last day of the semester.

Case studies must be chosen in consultation with the instructor by February 1, so it behooves all of you to begin thinking about the country you want to research as soon as we finish the first class.

The paper must include, at minimum, the following sections:

- Two major foreign policy objectives;
- The international strategic environment as it relates to your country's objectives;
- The regional strategic environment as it relates to your country's objectives;
- The domestic context for strategy;
- Foreign policy instruments to be used;
- Possible restraints;
- Linking ends and means.

Use a wide variety of primary and secondary sources. Include proper citation of sources and a complete bibliography. You may use any standard citation format but you must use it consistently.

4) Class participation and attendance. All students are expected to do the reading in advance and to take part in the discussion. The quality of class sessions is greatly enhanced when students are prepared to engage the course material in a constructive fashion. Participation will be noted and credited to your grade.

Poor attendance (two absences) will result in a reduction of your grade. Each absence, beyond the two excused, will reduce your final grade by 2%.

Basis for Grade

Chapter presentation	
(leading class discussion).....	10%
In-class exam	30%
Policy paper presentation	10%

Policy paper..... 30%
Class participation.....20%

Course Materials

Terry L. Deibel, *Foreign Affairs Strategy: Logic for American Statecraft* (Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2007).

Klaus Dodds, *Geopolitics: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford: Oxford UP, 2007).

Paul Gordon Lauren, Gordon Craig, Alexander George, *Force and Statecraft: Diplomatic Problems of Our Time* (Oxford: Oxford UP, 2007).

Politics (2010) Special Issue – Perspectives on the Changing Global Distribution of Power

Recommended Books

Daniel Drezner (ed.), *Avoiding Trivia: The Role of Strategic Planning in American Foreign Policy* (Brookings Institution Press, 2009).

Academic and Professional Integrity

All forms of dishonesty, whether by act or omission, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism and knowingly furnishing false information, are prohibited. Work submitted in the course must be the product of the efforts of the student presenting the work. Contributions of others to the finished work must be appropriately acknowledged.

Disability Services

If you have a documented disability you may be eligible for accommodations, in academic classes, the residence halls, food services areas, etc., under the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Students are not permitted to negotiate accommodations directly with professors. To receive accommodations or assistance, please self-identify at the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS), Duffy Hall, Room 67. The staff at DSS will help you to develop a plan for accommodations. For more information contact DSS at (973) 313-6003.

Topics and Readings

- 1/16 *Introduction*
Class participant introductions, course outline, expectations for class assignments, questions.

Assigning texts to lead class discussion
- 1/23 *Geopolitics*
Klaus Dodds, *Geopolitics* (chapters 2, 3, 4, 5)
- 1/30 *Strategy and Knowledge*
Deibel, "Defining Strategy," pp. 1-35
Lauren et. al, "Lessons of History and Knowledge for Statecraft," pp. 137-151
Stephen Walt, "Where Do Bad Ideas Come From?" *Foreign Policy*, January/February 2011

Forming working groups and assigning case studies (countries)
- 2/6 *Assessing*
Deibel, "The International Strategic Environment," pp. 35-76
Deibel, "The Domestic Context for Strategy," pp. 77-122
Lauren et. al., "A Postwar System of Security," only pp. 77-88
Lauren et. al., "The Evolving International System," pp. 110-136
Richard Betts, "Conflict or Cooperation?" *Foreign Affairs*, November/December 2010
John Dumbrell, "American Power: Crisis or Renewal?" (in *Politics*)
Richard Whitman, "The EU: Standing Aside from the Changing Global Balance of Power?" (in *Politics*)

2/13

Analyzing

Deibel, "Interests, Threats, and Opportunities," pp. 123-156

Deibel, "Power and Influence," pp. 157-206

National Intelligence Council, *Global Trends 2025: A Transformed World*, November 2008, pp. 1-37

Hugo Dobson, "Japan and the Changing Global Balance of Power: The View from the Summit," (in *Politics*)

Andrei Tsygankov, "Russia's Power and Alliances in the 21st Century," (in *Politics*)

Prepare answers to the following questions:

What are your country's objectives?

Justify your objectives.

List your objectives in order of priority.

Justify your ordering.

2/20

Planning: Political Instruments of State Power I

Deibel, "Negotiation," pp. 210-217

Lauren et. al., "Negotiation," pp. 152-174

Lauren et. al., "Deterrence," pp. 175-197

Lauren et. al., "Coercive Diplomacy," pp. 198-219

Lauren et. al., "Crisis Management," pp. 220-244

Shaun Breslin, "China's Emerging Global Role: Dissatisfied Responsible Great Power," (in *Politics*)

Christian Wagner, "India's Gradual Rise," (in *Politics*)

2/27

Planning: Political Instruments of State Power II

Deibel, "International Organization," pp. 217-226

Deibel, "International Law," pp. 226-230

Deibel, "Alliances," pp. 230-236

Lauren et. al., "A Postwar System of Security," only section on force and statecraft as envisioned by the UN, pp. 73-77

Michael Zurn and Matthew Stephen, "The View of Old and New Powers on the Legitimacy of International Institutions," (in *Politics*)

Paulo Sotero, "Brazil's Rising Ambition in a Shifting Global Balance of Power," (in *Politics*)

Eduard Jordaan, "Fall from Grace: South Africa and the Changing International Order," (in *Politics*)

- 3/6 *Planning: Economic Instruments of State Power*
David Baldwin, *Economic Statecraft*, Princeton UP, 1985 (chapters 3 and 4)
Deibel, "Trade and Finance," pp. 243-249
Deibel, "Foreign Aid," pp. 249-259
Deibel, "Sanctions," pp. 259-268
- 3/13 *Spring Break – No Classes*
- 3/20 *Planning: Information and Military Instruments of State Power*
Klaus Dodds, *Geopolitics* (chapter 6)
Piers Robinson, "The role of media and public opinion," in Steve Smith et. al. (eds.), *Foreign Policy* (Oxford: Oxford UP, 2008).
Deibel, "Public Diplomacy," pp. 236-243
Deibel, "Military Instruments: Persuasive Use of Force," pp. 268-277
Deibel, "Instrument Priorities," pp. 277-281
- Prepare answers to the following questions:
What instruments will you use to achieve your objectives? Why those?
How will you use those instruments?
- 3/27 *In-class exam*
- 4/3 *Restraints*
Lauren et. al., "Ethics and Other Restraints on Force and Statecraft," pp. 245- 268
Lauren at. al., "Conclusion," pp. 269-279
- Prepare answers to the following questions:
How will your action affect the target(s)? Can you envision a different affect?
How will your target(s) react? Why do you think that? On what basis did you make your judgment?
- 4/10 *Ends, Means and Evaluation*
Deibel, "Linking Ends and Means," pp. 281-321
Deibel, "Evaluating Courses of Action," pp. 322-365
Deibel, "Conclusion: American Foreign Affairs Strategy Today," pp. 366-414
- Prepare answers to the following questions:
Make a cost-benefit analysis of your strategy. Is it worth the costs?
What if things do not go as you planned? How costly will failure of your strategy be?

4/17	<i>Holy Thursday – No Classes</i>
4/24	Presentations
5/1	Last Class Presentations
5/ 7	Final Examinations Begin (we have none)
5/8	Policy Paper Due
5/13	Final Examinations End